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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

25 FEB 1993

THE SECRETARY - ROOM 222

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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MAR 5 1993

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Honorable Bob Krueger  
United States Senator  
961 Federal Building  
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Senator Krueger:

This is in reply to your letter of February 5, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of your constituent, Tom Prescott, regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

Mr. Prescott is specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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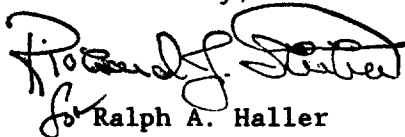
Honorable Bob Krueger

2.

We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituent's concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituent to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,



Ralph A. Haller  
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures

cc:

CNTL NO - 9300574

Chief, PRBureau

Chief, LM&M Divison

Docket Files, Room 222

P&P Branch File (Pink)

DFertig/RShiben:/gb/lm:PR

# Congressional

*DUR OBC 92-23-93*

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

## CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/12/93

### LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300574	02/12/93	02/05/93	02/25/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	Bob Krueger	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
Tom Prescott	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRE/mon 5-16-93			
DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/12/93			

REMARKS: Respond to the Austin, TX office.

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Feb 15 2 11 PM '93

BOB-KRUEGER  
TEXAS

COMMITTEES:  
ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4303

February 5, 1993

PRB  
92-235  
574

Mr. Alfred Sikes  
Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Chairman Sikes:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which is representative of many that I have received on this issue. I would appreciate your providing me with any pertinent information that you might have in this regard.

Thank you for your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

  
Bob Krueger

Enclosure

PLEASE REPLY TO:

961 Federal Building  
Austin, Texas 78701

RECEIVED  
FEB 16 2 07 PM '93  
PRIVATE

Tom Prescott  
P.O. Box 460055  
San Antonio, TX 78246-0055

The Honorable Robert Krueger  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

January 22, 1993

Dear Senator Krueger:

I have been employed in the aerospace industry for over 20 years. I have also been constructing and operating radio controlled model aircraft since 1959. Further, I have utilized radio control model aircraft to pioneer aviation technology development.

I am very concerned about the proposed rules that are currently under consideration by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted, the new rules will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for model use and increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability for controlling model aircraft.

The model aircraft radio control frequencies are in the 72 - 76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. However, our radio control frequencies in this band are provided with adequate separation from the land mobile frequencies so that we have been able to share the band without either use interfering with the other.

Now the FCC wants to create more land mobile frequencies by splitting them into narrower bandwidths and rearranging the band plan. As a result, many land mobile frequencies will move closer to the radio control frequencies and cause interference to radio control operation. I am told that of the 50 frequencies that are presently available for radio control of model aircraft, only 19 frequencies will be left if these rules are adopted.

When we fly our model aircraft under radio control, we go to great lengths to assure the safety of the operator, spectators, and nearby property. Many of our safety precautions involve the careful coordination and use of the assigned radio control frequencies. If the number of useable frequencies is diminished as proposed by the FCC, the remaining frequencies will become congested and the margin of safety will be greatly decreased.

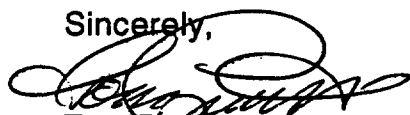
The FCC must understand that many of these models have wing spans in excess of 10 feet and can weigh as much as 50 pounds. The model themselves are expensive to build, but more to the point, they are capable of causing property damage, serious injury, or even death if radio interference causes the operator to lose control of the craft. We often fly our models at organized events and competitions where hundreds of operators participate. We need the use of our full complement of radio frequencies in order to assure a safe flying environment.

I do not think it is in the best interest of the public for the FCC to provide additional land mobile radio users with more frequencies within the radio control model band. This action could seriously jeopardize public safety. It may be true that we as radio control modelers do not represent as strong an economic and lobbying interest as the corporate entity seeking these changes, but we do have considerable investments in our models and radio equipment.

Further, our modeling activities are exposing the youth of our nation to the mysteries of flight and renewing their interest in this field of endeavor. This and other model aviation activities are contributing to the advancement and development of commercial aviation.

The model aviation industry provides thousands of jobs and supports a network of hobbyist that results in many hours of enjoyment to people like myself. Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my advocacy and find an alternative solution for the land mobile radio users.

Sincerely,



Tom Prescott